

Message Text

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ACTION H-03

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FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8868
INFO AMCONSUL LENINGRAD PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 04252

E.O.11652:XGDS
TAGS:OREP(PRICE, MELVIN)
SUBJECT: CODEL PRICE

REF: STATE 61448

1. ACTING POLCOUNS CALLED ON DEDPUTY CHIEF OF MFA'S USA DIVISION FEDOSEYEV MARCH 10 TO DISCUSS CODEL PRICE VISIT. FEDOSEYEV SAID THAT SOVIETS WELCOME VISIT OF CODEL AND ARE PLEASED TO GRANT PERMISSION FOR USE OF "SPECIAL PLANE" FOR INTERNAL PORTIONS OF CODEL'S TRAVEL. HE NOTED THAT PLANE WOULD BE MILITARY BOEING 707 AND REQUESTED THAT FULL FLIGHT INFORMATION INCLUDING CREW LIST AND TAIL NUMBER BE PROVIDED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. HE ALSO NOTED THAT ALL COSTS FOR THE TRIP, INCLUDING INTERNAL TRAVEL AND HOTELS, WOULD BE COVERED BY THE U.S.

2. FEDOSEYEV SAID THAT ARRANGEMENTS HAD BEEN MADE FOR THE CODEL TO BE RECEIVED AT THE SUPREME SOVIET, THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, THE MINISTRY OF DEFENSE, AND THE USA INSTITUTE. SINCE ACTING POLCOUNS HAD ALREADY GIVEN LIST OF INDIVIDUALS (SEE REFTEL) WHOM CODEL WOULD LIKE TO SEE, FEDOSEYEV POINTEDLY REMARKED THAT, ALTHOUGH RECEPTION AT ALL OF THE INSTITUTIONS LISTED ABOVE WAS ASSURED, "WHO IN
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PARTICULAR WILL TALK TO THEM WILL BE DETERMINED LATER."

3. REGARDING CODEL DESIRE TO VISIT ODESSA, FEDOSEYEV SAID THAT THE "ORIGINAL" ITINERARY WHICH THE MFA HAD RECEIVED FROM THE SOVIET EMBASSY (BASED, HE SAID, ON A DOBRININ-PRICE CONVERSATION) LISTED THE CITIES TO BE VISITED AS: LENINGRAD, MOSCOW, KIEV. THESE THREE CITIES WERE

"DEFINITELY ACCEPTABLE" AND A "DECISION HAD BEEN MADE" ON THE ASSUMPTION THAT THESE THREE CITIES WOULD BE THE ONLY ONES VISITED. CHANGING TO ODESSA WOULD "COMPLICATE" MATTERS, FEDOSEYEV SAID, AND ASKED IF WE WOULD CHECK WITH CODEL PRICE TO SEE IF CODEL WOULD NOT AGREE TO KIEV INSTEAD SINCE THIS WAS THE "FIRST MENTIONED."

4. COMMENT: FEDOSEYEV WAS POLITE, BUT QUITE FIRM ABOUT KIEV AND NOT ODESSA. REQUEST DEPARTMENT CONFIRM CODEL WISHES TO PRESS FOR ODESSA AND NOT KIEV. IF CODEL STILL WISHES ODESSA WE SHOULD BE PREPARED FOR A SUBSTANTIAL DELAY IN RECEIVING PERMISSION TO GO THERE AND POSSIBLY A REFUSAL AT THE LAST MINUTE. TOON

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